

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 072549 TOSEC 030231  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011  
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APPROVED BY: S/S-O:AWOTTO  
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P 020413Z APR 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY  
WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 072549 TOSEC 030231

NODIS  
WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT MANAGUA 1535 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 01 APR 77

QUOTE S E C R E T MANAGUA 1535

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY VANCE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, NU  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S MESSAGE TO SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT  
REGARDING APRIL 5 CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. PRESIDENT SOMOZA CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE ON THE EVENING OF  
MARCH 31. HE INFORMED ME THAT HE WAS DEEPLY DISTURBED OVER THE  
FORTHCOMING SPECIAL HEARING ON NICARAGUA SCHEDULED BY THE FOREIGN  
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FOR  
APRIL 5. PRESIDENT DECLARED THAT HE FEARED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT  
WOULD NOT RECEIVE A FAIR AND BALANCED HEARING. HE ADDED THAT  
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CONGRESSMAN KOCH WAS SPREADING FALSE AND DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS  
ABOUT HIM AND HIS GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING ERRONEOUS ACCUSATIONS  
ABOUT MISUSE OF U.S. AID FUNDS WHICH THE DEPARTMENT HAD REFUTED.

2. THE PRESIDENT ASKED ME SPECIFICALLY TO CONVEY TO YOU IN THE  
STRONGEST TERMS HIS DESIRE THAT THE DEPARTMENT PRESENT A FULL  
BALANCED PICTURE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN NICARAGUA. HE

SAID THAT HE WAS DISMAYED AT UNDERSECRETARY BENSON'S TESTIMONY ON NICARAGUA BEFORE THE LONG SUBCOMMITTEE WHICH HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO HIM FROM WASHINGTON. SOMOZA HOPED THE DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT ACCEPT AT FACE VALUE THE UNPROVEN ALLEGATIONS OF CONGRESSMAN KOCH. HE SAID THAT HE ADMIRED PRESIDENT CARTER'S STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS BUT EXPECTED UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIFFICULT TERRORIST PROBLEM FACING HIS GOVERNMENT.

3. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE WAS THE TARGET OF A VICIOUS CAMPAIGN TO HARM HIS GOVERNMENT AND WEAKEN TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN A LOYAL FRIEND AND ALLY. NOT ONLY HAD HE SUFFERED CALUMNY IN THE PAST BECAUSE OF HIS FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES, BUT NOW HE WAS BEING UNJUSTLY ATTACKED BY CONGRESSMAN KOCH IN THE U.S. CONGRESS WHO WANTED TO CUT OFF ALL MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA.

4. SOMOZA ENDED BY AGAIN URGING THE DEPARTMENT TO PRESENT A WELL BALANCED PICTURE OF THE PRO-CASTRO INSURGENCY FACED BY HIS GOVERNMENT, THE KILLING OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BY TERRORISTS, AND THE PROBLEMS OF RE-ESTABLISHING ORDER IN THE RURAL AREAS. HE SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD NOT ALLOW FALSE OR UNPROVEN ALLEGATIONS TO STAND AS FACTS, EXPLAIN THE SCRUPULOUS CARE WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS USED U.S. FUNDS ENTRUSTED TO IT UNDER THE AID PROGRAM, AND CONVEY THIS TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF FOREIGN OPERATIONS COMMITTEE. HE ASSERTED THAT THE CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE EXTREMELY SERIOUS IF THE CONGRESSMEN ON THE COMMITTEE FOLLOWED CONGRESSMAN KOCH'S LEAD OUT OF IGNORANCE OR MISREPRESENTATION OF THE FACTS.

5. HE ASKED ME TO PLEASE CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER  
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AS WELL.

6. I BELIEVE IT IS A MATTER OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE AND SENSITIVITY TO BRING TO THE PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION.  
THEBERGE

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, TOSEC, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:AWOTTO  
**Enclosure:** FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** N770002-0393  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S MESSAGE TO SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT REGARDING APRIL 5 CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SHUM, NU, US, (SOMOZA DEBAYLE, ANASTASIO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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